



## Office of Health Care Access Certificate of Need Application

### Final Decision

**Applicant:** Griffin Hospital

**Docket Number:** 03-30072-WVR

**Project Title:** Request to Waive CON Requirements for Replacement CT Scanner in Accordance with Section 19a-639c, C.G.S.

**Statutory Reference:** Section 19a-639c of the Connecticut General Statutes

**Filing Date:** May 20, 2003

**Hearing:** Waived

**Decision Date:** June 11, 2003

**Staff:** Paolo Fiducia

**Project Description:** Griffin Hospital ("Hospital") proposes to replace its existing Elscint CT Twin Scanning System with a GE Medical Systems Lightspeed 16-Slice CT Scanner System at a total capital cost of \$1,068,007.

**Nature of Proceedings:** On May 20, 2003, the Office of Health Care Access ("OHCA") received the Certificate of Need ("CON") waiver request application of Griffin Hospital for the replacement of its existing CT Scanner at 130 Division Street in Derby, Connecticut at a total capital cost of \$1,068,007. The Hospital is a health care facility or institution as defined in Section 19a-630 of the Connecticut General Statutes ("C.G.S.").

OHCA's authority to review and approve, modify or deny the CON application is established by Section 19a-639c, C.G.S. The provisions of this section as well as the principles and guidelines set forth in Section 19a-637, C.G.S., were fully considered by OHCA in its review.

## **Findings of Fact**

*Each finding of fact included in this Final Decision has been taken from the CON waiver application and related CON filings. A source reference is included with each finding of fact. All CON applicants must attest to the accuracy and correctness of the information submitted to OHCA as part of the CON application process.*

1. On June 6, 1996, under Docket Number 96-515, Griffin Hospital acquired an Elscint CT Twin Scanning System at a total capital cost of \$1,336,476. *(June 6, 1996, Final Decision, Page 4)*
2. Griffin Hospital (“Hospital”) is proposing to replace its existing Elscint CT Twin Scanning System located at 130 Division Street in Derby, Connecticut with a GE Medical Systems Lightspeed 16-Slice CT Scanner System. *(May 20, 2003, Letter of Intent/Waiver Form 2030, Page 4a)*
3. The projected capital expenditure for the proposed replacement CT Scanner unit is \$1,068,007. *(May 20, 2003, Letter of Intent/Waiver Form 2030, Page 3)*
4. The cost of \$1,068,007 is below the \$2,000,000 threshold for determining eligibility for waiver of the CON process pursuant to Section 19a-639c of the Connecticut General Statutes (“C.G.S.”). *(April 11, 2003, Letter of Intent/Waiver Form 2030, Page 5)*
5. The proposed expenditure for the proposed replacement CT Scanner unit is not more than the original cost, plus an increase of ten percent for each twelve-month period that has elapsed since June 6, 1996. *(May 20, 2003, Letter of Intent/Waiver Form 2030, Page 5)*
6. The replacement equipment will serve an existing population with a similar payer mix. *(May 20, 2003, Letter of Intent/Waiver Form 2030, Page 4a)*
7. The Hospital plans to fund the proposed replacement using lease financing. *(May 20, 2003, Letter of Intent/Waiver Form 2030, Page 4)*

## **Rationale**

Griffin Hospital (“Hospital”), located at 130 Division Street in Derby, Connecticut, is proposing to replace the existing Elscint CT Twin Scanning System with a GE Medical Systems Lightspeed 16-Slice CT Scanner System.

The projected capital expenditure for the proposed replacement CT Scanner unit is \$1,068,007. The cost of \$1,068,007 is below the \$2,000,000 threshold for determining eligibility for waiver of the CON process pursuant to Section 19a-639c of the Connecticut General Statutes (“C.G.S.”). The proposed expenditure for the replacement CT Scanner unit is not more than the original cost, plus an increase of ten percent for each twelve-month period that has elapsed since 1996.

Based on the foregoing Findings and Rationale, the Certificate of Need application of Griffin Hospital to replace its existing CT Scanner unit, at a total capital cost of \$1,068,007, is hereby GRANTED.

## **Order**

Based on the above findings, OHCA has determined that Griffin Hospital's proposal to replace its existing Elscint CT Twin Scanning System with a GE Medical Systems Lightspeed 16-Slice CT Scanner System meets the requirements for waiver of the CON process pursuant to Section 19a-639c, C.G.S. Therefore, Griffin Hospital's proposal to replace the CT Scanner at a capital cost of \$1,068,007 is approved and a Certificate of Need is GRANTED.

1. This authorization shall expire on June 11, 2004. Should the replacement not be completed by that date, the Hospital must seek further approval from OHCA to complete the replacement beyond that date.
2. The Hospital shall not exceed the approved capital expenditure of \$1,068,007. In the event that the Hospital learns of potential cost increases or expects that the final project costs will exceed those approved, the Hospital shall file with OHCA a request for approval of the revised replacement budget.
3. The Hospital is required to notify OHCA as to the date of replacement and termination of the use of the existing CT scanner unit.

All of the foregoing constitutes the final order of the Office of Health Care Access in this matter.

By Order of the  
Office of Health Care Access

Date signed:  
June 11, 2003

Signed by:  
Mary M. Heffernan  
Commissioner

MMH:pf